

Two points of view

By Sgt. Noreen L. Feeney, TF Nationwide—318th PAOC, Chicago, IL

When the residents of Somerset, Ky., elected Darrell Beshears to his fourth term as Pulaski County Judge Executive, they probably didn't know they were electing a man of high class.

Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Beshears is in charge of the administrative duties for Pulaski County in Somerset. He is in a high ranking position with hundreds of personnel under his command. Two weeks out of the year he changes direction and uniforms and takes charge of one of the lanes of the Field Leadership Reaction Course for the 100th Division (Institutional Training) here.

"I am not a judge that sits on a bench actually," said Beshears. "I don't swing a gavel and sentence people. I head the county offices such as the County Clerk, the Sheriff's Department and the Jail. The title is Judge Executive even though I'm not one, but I can't get these guys to quit calling me judge." Beshears had been a Judge Executive for 12 years before being reelected to a fourth term. He has been around the loop in the Army with two years on active duty, one in Vietnam, and 24 of his 56 years in the Reserve. The last 12 of those 24 years have been as a drill sergeant.

"I love being a drill sergeant," he said. "It is a neat break for me to come here and do this. I have a lot of responsibility and duties at home. Here, I just teach the men and women how to be Army officers. It's not stress; it's a love for what I do." Beshears is the NCOIC of the Alpha Loop in the FLRC which trains cadets in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

"It's good for them as well as me," explained Beshears. "I like to teach people to be better than they are. That, along with the discipline of the Army I always liked, makes me out to be a better person. My Army training makes it easier for me to work with my staff. I've learned to treat people with respect and I, in turn, teach that to the cadets."

While Beshears considers the Army to be one of his greatest assets, he realizes retirement is on the horizon. "As the saying goes though, all good things must come to an end," Beshears explained. "It's time for me to move on."

Beshears will retire in December with the satisfaction of knowing he's helped put many fine officers into the ranks of the Army.



Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Beshears, watches as ROTC cadets decide how to plant a cratering charge in the field. Sgt. Beshears is one the two NCOICs of the Field Leadership Response Course that teaches the cadets how to solve a series of problems they encounter while in the field. Photo by: Sgt. Noreen L. Feeney

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"The building will be the representation of the Army Reserve for the next 35 to 40 years," said Tindall. "Since it will be on a main post thoroughfare, it will be the first impression of the Army Reserve for anyone who enters the post."

The new, two-story center will provide dedicated administrative offices, training classrooms, a pilot briefing room, library, assembly hall, kitchen, arms vault, communications, storage and related support facilities for all of the assigned units. The structure is designed to accommodate just over 1,000 Army reserve soldiers.

The project will also have a positive economic impact on local communities including Radcliff, Elizabethtown and Louisville. According to Mr. Todd Eyre, the Project Manager, the construction project will employ up to 200 people, many of whom work for local subcontractors.

